

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 205280
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SIL-01
LAB-04 L-03 OMB-01 /034 R

DRAFTED BY DOD/ISA:RALLEN:ED
APPROVED BY EUR/CAN:JHROUSE, JR.
EUR/CAN:CJCLEMENT

-----086583 271804Z /44

R 260135Z AUG 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
INFO OSAF WASHDC/CG
HQ USAF WASHDC/JACI/PRQ
SECDEF 'ASHDC/ISA/FMRA
FT DEVENS EXCHANGE MASS

UNCLAS STATE 205280

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MILI, CA

SUBJECT:LABOR PROBLEMS AT GOOSE BAY
REF: STATE 015371

1. A LETTER DATED MAY 17, 1977, FROM MR. BANNING
HARDIE, DIRECTOR, ATLANTIC REGION, CANADIAN DEPT. OF LABOR,
TO MR. H.B. ROBINSON, UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE, CANADIAN
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, AND PASSED INFORMALLY TO
THE DEPARTMENT, INQUIRED WHETHER A VISIT BY CANADIAN LABOR
AUTHORITIES TO PEASE AFB, NEW HAMPSHIRE, TO DISCUSS THE
SHEILA SCOTT CLAIM WOULD BE WORTHWHILE.
2. USAF ADVISED THAT SUCH RECORDS AS HAVE BEEN FOUND ARE
LOCATED AT THE NEW ENGLAND AREA EXCHANGE, FORT DEVENS, MASS.
THUS, A VISIT TO PEASE AFB WOULD NOT BE WORTHWHILE, NOR, FOR
THE REASONS INDICATED BELOW, WOULD A VISIT TO FORT DEVENS
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BE APPROPRIATE AT THE PRESENT TIME.

3. REFTTEL SET FORTH IN DETAIL THE USG POSITION ON THE SHEILA
SCOTT CLAIM. NO ADDITIONAL EMPLOYEE RECORDS HAVE BEEN FOUND
SINCE REFTTEL WAS DISPATCHED. AMONG THE MISSING RECORDS ARE
THE TIME AND ATTENDANCE CARDS FOR GOOSE BAY EXCHANGE
RETAIL STORE EMPLOYEES PRIOR TO FY 1977. IT DOES NOT APP-

EAR THAT ANY ADDITIONAL RECORDS WILL BE FOUND.

4. ALTHOUGH TIME AND ATTENDANCE RECORDS FOR THE PERIOD IN QUESTION (1974) ARE MISSING, THE AREA EXCHANGE HAS COMPILED FROM INFORMAL HANDWRITTEN NOTES MADE IN 1975 A TABULATION OF HOURS WORKED IN EXCESS OF FORTY HOURS PER WEEK BY GOOSE BAY EXCHANGE EMPLOYEES IN 1974. THIS TABULATION INDICATES THAT SHEILA SCOTT WOULD BE DUE A TOTAL OF ONLY \$97.46 FOR OVERTIME IN THE GOOSE BAY EXCHANGE RETAIL STORE DURING 1974, IF USAF WERE TO RETROACTIVELY APPLY TO EXCHANGE RETAIL EMPLOYEES THE REQUIREMENT OF THE NEWFOUNDLAND HOURS OF WORK ACT REGARDING #ASSISTANTS IN SHOPS." IF HER OVERTIME WHILE EMPLOYED IN THE EXCHANGE WAREHOUSE WERE ALSO INCLUDED, SHE WOULD BE DUE AN ADDITIONAL \$18.07 FOR A TOTAL OF \$115.53. IF WOULD NOT APPEAR, HOWEVER, THAT WAREHOUSE EMPLOYEES QUALIFY AS "ASSISTANTS IN SHOPS."

5. ALTHOUGH THE INFORMAL TABULATION REFERRED TO ABOVE WOULD SEEM TO CONSTITUTE AN ADEQUATE BASIS FOR CALCULATING THE AMOUNT OF SHEILA SCOTT CLAIM, IT DOES NOT RESOLVE THE CENTRAL ISSUE OF THE LEGAL BASIS FOR PAYMENT OF THE CLAIM. IN THE ABSENCE OF NEW DOCUMENTATION AND INFORMATION FROM CANADIAN AUTHORITIES, INCLUDING REPLY TO THE POINTS CONTAINED IN REFTEL, OUR POSITION REMAINS AS STATED IN PARA 6 REFTEL, I.E., THAT AVAILABLE DOCUMENTATION DOES NOT UNCLASSIFIED

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SUPPORT THE PAYMENT OF ANY CLAIM.

6. IN VIEW OF THE ABOVE, FURTHER EFFORTS TO LOCATE AND EXAMINE EMPLOYEE RECORDS OF THE GOOSE BAY EXCHANGE WOULD NOT SEEM TO BE WARRANTED. IF THE GOC WISHES TO PURSUE THE MATTER FURTHER IT WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL IF EMBASSY COULD ASCERTAIN GOC VIEWS ON THE POINTS RAISED IN PARAS 3 THRU 5 OF REFTEL AND PROVIDE COPIES OF THE APPLICABLE LAW OR LAWS AND LEGAL OPINIONS AS REQUESTED IN PARA 6 OF REFTEL. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LABOR, CLAIMS, DOCUMENTS, MEETINGS, LABOR DISPUTES, PERSONNEL COMPENSATION, EMPLOYMENT HOURS, MILITARY BASES, GOOSE BAY
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE205280
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RALLEN:ED
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770310-1295
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770816/aaaaanm.tel
Line Count: 104
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 47eadf51-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 15371
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1462792
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LABOR PROBLEMS AT GOOSE BAY
TAGS: MILI, CA, (SCOTT, SHEILA)
To: OTTAWA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/47eadf51-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009